

REMARKS

In the above referenced Office Action, the Examiner divided the claims into the following groups:

- I. Claims 25-33, drawn to hepatitis E virus ORF 1 protein or fragment, classified in class 435, subclass 235.1;
- II. Claims 25-29, 34-37, drawn to hepatitis E virus ORF 2 protein or fragment, classified in class 435, subclass 235.1;
- III. Claims 25-29, 38-41, drawn to hepatitis E virus ORF 3 protein or fragment, classified in class 435, subclass 235.1.

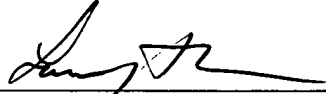
In response, the applicants elect Group II without traverse. Non-elected claims 30-33 and 38-41 have been canceled.

Accordingly, the applicants have elected to begin prosecution with examination of claims 25-29 and claims 34-37.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge any deficiency in fees herein to Deposit Account No. 50-2207.

Respectfully submitted,

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